



Kanuti National Wildlife Refuge
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U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Kanuti

National Wildlife Refuge

Meet the Kanuti Staff

Kanuti National Wildlife Refuge has had some staff changes recently. We would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to the staff currently working for Kanuti Refuge.



Bob Schulz - Refuge Manager

Bob was Deputy Refuge Manager of Tetlin Refuge in Tok for 10 years before moving to Fairbanks in January 2011. He is responsible for the overall supervision of all Kanuti Refuge staff. Bob represents Kanuti Refuge during special meetings, including Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Council Meetings. He is the principle person who deals with special use permits.

Merry Maxwell - Assistant Refuge Manager:

Before coming to Fairbanks in 1997, Merry attended Humboldt State University in northern California, where she was in the company of huge redwood trees and the Pacific Ocean. Merry has been a fixture at Kanuti Refuge since 1997; she originally held a seasonal Biological Technician position for Yukon Flats Refuge. In April 2001, Merry became the new Assistant Refuge Manager for Kanuti. Based out of the Fairbanks office, she assists Bob with the day to day activities of the refuge and represents Kanuti Refuge during refuge events and special meetings. Although Merry's title has changed recently, she is still the Avian Biologist until her former Biological Technician position is filled.



Harvey Williams - Refuge Information Technician

Based out of Bettles, Harvey is a familiar face to most people in the local villages. This former Allakaket resident is a jack of all trades. In the villages, he seals fur for trappers, helps with steel shot clinics and works with the National Park Service on maintenance projects. Harvey serves as a mentor during Earth Quest science Camps. He helps with the biological projects on the refuge by driving boats, helping with brood surveys and small mammal trapping, collecting insects, moving fuel and works as an observer on moose, beaver and wolf surveys. He is a vital member of the Kanuti staff.

AMERICA'S NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES...
where wildlife comes first!



Lisa Saperstein - Wildlife Biologist

Lisa has been with Kanuti Refuge since the fall of 1998. She came to Fairbanks in 1989 and received her Masters degree at the University of Alaska - Fairbanks studying the effect of fire on caribou winter range. From 1993 - 1997 she worked as a Refuge Biologist for the Koyukuk/Nowitna complex in Galena. She is involved with many projects on Kanuti Refuge, ranging from insects to moose. Current and recently completed projects include moose population and winter habitat surveys, surveys of small mammal populations in burned areas, beaver cache surveys, aquatic insect sampling, white-fronted goose surveys, a wolf population survey and monitoring snow depth at markers throughout the refuge. When not in the field, Lisa prepares reports of her field activities and works with computerized Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to map out study locations and their habitat types.



Jimmy Fox - Assistant Refuge Manager (Selawik Refuge):

Jimmy is currently on detail with the Kanuti staff. Before joining the Fairbanks team he was Assistant Refuge Manager at Selawik Refuge in Kotzebue for two years, Assistant Refuge Manager at Hagerman Refuge in Texas for two years and Park Ranger for the Army Corps of Engineers in Missouri from 1991 to 1998. Jimmy currently helps Kanuti managers with administrative tasks, including environmental compliances for all three refuge, the Centennial campaign and safety issues. Jimmy helps keep the office fun with his sense of humor and positive attitude.

Jody Malinowski - Park Ranger:

Jody just transferred to the Fairbanks office from Southeast Louisiana Refuges complex, where she was Big Branch Marsh Refuge Manager. During the winter months, she performs environmental education programs in Fairbanks and the local villages. She is responsible for the Kanuti web site, brochure publication and special outreach activities. Once she gets her feet on the ground and adjusts to the cold and earthquakes, she will be a common site in the village schools. During the summer months, Jody will be based in the Arctic Interagency Visitor Center in Coldfoot. There she will assist visiting travelers and carry out a variety of outreach activities.



Curtis Knight - Seasonal Employee:

This former Georgia resident has been with the Kanuti staff since the summer of 1992. He is in his senior year at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, pursuing a degree in natural resource management. During his busy schedule he finds time to work for Kanuti Refuge one day a week. During the summer months, Curtis assists Merry with bird surveys and Lisa with small mammal trapping and GIS mapping work on Kanuti Refuge.

Carri Forbes - STEP Student:

Carri started working in the Fairbanks office in the summer of 2001. This past summer she took on the massive project of cataloging all of Kanuti's photographs. Carri has literally looked at hundreds of photographs and put them into binders organized by year and subject. Thanks to Carri we now have a representative photo history of Kanuti Refuge since the early 1980's. Carri works one day a week helping refuge staff with biological field work and administrative tasks. She also shares her time with the fisheries office in Fairbanks.



The following staff work for all three refuges, Arctic, Yukon Flats and Kanuti, based out of the Fairbanks office.

**Sam Patten - Fairbanks Refuge Fire Management Officer:**

Sam has worked for all three refuges based out of the Fairbanks office since January 2002. Before joining the ranks of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Sam worked for Alaska Fish and Game for 17 years. With the state, Sam worked as a Wildlife Biologist and for the last seven years in fire management also. From 1983 - 1989, Sam was the Area Biologist on the Yukon Delta, where he dealt with over 50 villages. Sam now spends his time monitoring wildland fire on Arctic, Yukon Flats and Kanuti Refuges. He is also working closely with the village of Allakaket to provide a mechanical treatment of the area surrounding the town.

Wennona Brown - Fairbanks Refuge Subsistence Coordinator:

Wennona has been a member of the Fairbanks office since January 2002. She has been in Fairbanks for three years and worked for a private consulting firm as an environmental scientist. Wennona is the three refuges' liaison with local villages on subsistence issues. She assists the villages with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service policies and helps the Service with village issues that affect subsistence. She also represents Kanuti, Yukon Flats and Arctic Refuge during Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Council Meetings. Wennona is interested in getting involved with tribal meeting and answering subsistence questions locals may have.

**Keith Kimbrell - Fairbanks Refuge Administrative Officer:**

Keith came to the Fairbanks staff in December 2001 after working in the Fisheries Resources Office as an Administrative Technician. He currently holds the Administrative Officer position for all three refuge based out of the Fairbanks office. Keith has the overwhelming task of dealing with Arctic, Yukon Flats and Kanuti's budget. Keith's hard work keeps the Fairbanks Refuge office functioning and refuge employees smiling.

Almeda Gaddis - Fairbanks Refuge Administrative Technician:

Almeda has been in Fairbanks for over seven years. Before joining the Fairbanks Refuge office five years ago, she was a supply technician at Fort Wainwright and a member of the military until 1998. Almeda assists Keith with many administrative tasks, including time keeping. She lays a vital role in Arctic, Yukon Flats and Kanuti Refuge.

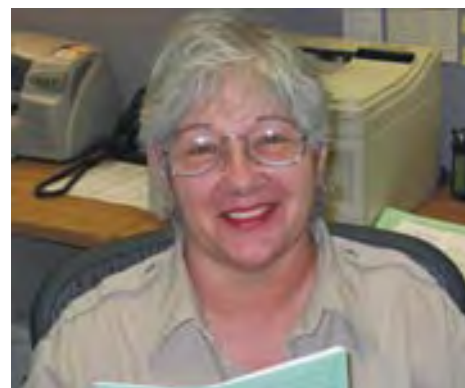


Donna Christensen - Fairbanks Refuges Administrative Technician:

Donna has been with the Fairbanks office since November 1997. She assists Keith and Almeda with many different administrative tasks for all three refuges.

Judy Schoenewald - Fairbanks Refuges Refuge Clerk:

Judy came to Fairbanks in 1978. She started working for Kanuti Refuge in the Fairbanks Refuge office in the summer of 2001. She answers the phones and works at the front desk, so is the first refuge point of contact for many people. Her smiling face has greeted many people who visit the Fairbanks office. Judy spends her time outside of the office quilting.



If you have any questions for the staff of Kanuti Refuge please call (907) 456-0329.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Look for new issues of the Kanuti Refuge Newsletter coming out soon!!

